



NEWS from U.S. Senator Bob Dole

(R.—Kans.)

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DOLE URGES BUTZ TO REMOVE MONITORING SYSTEM

WASHINGTON, D.C.--In a meeting yesterday with Agriculture Secretary Earl Butz, Senator Bob Dole strongly urged removal of the export monitoring system on wheat, soybeans and feed grains.

In a follow-up letter, Dole told Butz that "strong action is needed immediately to prevent a further decline in the markets" and added that "ending the export monitoring system should improve the situation."

"A continuation of the export monitoring system would discourage buying in the market. The result could turn the grain production industry into a depressed, sector, similar to the livestock industry," Dole said, adding that this consequence could be disastrous for the entire economy.

Dole said recent crop reports forecast a record harvest this year, "indicating that we are clearly in an adequate supply position for the rest of the crop year." The Kansas Senator said that because of these conditions, "the export monitoring system instituted last year should be dismantled."

Dole told Butz that he has recently received many telephone calls and letters from farmers concerned about the market decline, and added that many of them clearly stated their intentions to plow up some of the wheat they planted and reduce feed grain plantings this spring unless conditions improve. The price of wheat, soybeans, corn and feed grains has declined sharply in the past few months, and wheat prices have declined by more than \$1 per bushel in just the past few weeks.